Sector	Thermal@		Nuclear		Hydroene	Gene-
	Target PLF(%)	Actual PLF(%)	Target PLF(%)	Actual PLF(%)	Availa-bility(%)	ration achieve-ment w.r.t. Design Energy (%)
Central	79.0	82.1	58.8	63.2	86.8	94.7
State	71.3	67.1	-	-	89.2	92.6
Private	82.3*	85.4*	-	-	98.3	119.5
ALL INDIA TOTAL	74.7	73.6	58.8	63.2	89.2	94.1

@ Coal & liquid

*Private Utilities only

Setting up of national power grid

677. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the plan of setting up of National Power Grid has been hanging for a long time;

(b) if so, the impediments that are creating problems towards setting up of a National Power Grid;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many regions do not have surplus power; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The process of strengthening of transmission system for development of a National Power Grid is a continuing process. Starting from isolated systems, State grids and regional grids were developed. Thereafter, the process of interconnecting and integrating the regional grids to form National Power Grid was started. Initially, asynchronous inter-regional inter-connections were provided during 1990s keeping in view the frequency profile of operation of the various regional grids. The

synchronous inter-connections have been provided after the regional grids have been sufficiently strengthened.

At present, Eastern, North Eastern, Western and Northern Grids are inter-conneted synchronously. Southern Region is connected to this system through asynchronous HVDC lines. A inter-regional transmission capacity of 11450 MW has already been achieved and it is envisaged to increase the inter-regional transmission capacity to more than 37000 MW by the end of Eleventh Plan.

(c) and (d) Northern Region and Western Region are generally in deficit and do not normally have any surplus power. The other regions have some surplus power during off-peak hours.

Funds for scientific research

†678. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for scientific research in various fields during the last year 2005-2006;

(b) the amount utilized out of the allocated funds; and

(c) whether any concrete results have come out of this scientific research and the efforts being made by Government to promote education and scientific research in future?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (c) An allocation of Rs. 330 crores was made for scientific research under Research and Development Programme in 2005-06. The scheme includes programmes for promotion of research and development in newly emerging and frontline areas of science and engineering including multi-disciplinary fields; support to research in high priority areas of national interest taking into account of existing research capability of host institute ; special encouragement for young scientists to take up challenging R&D activities etc. The allocated funds have been fully utilized. Several impressive results including publications in high impact jurnals, patents, human resource development, etc. have been emanated from the research investment. Government has taken a number of initiatives for the promotion of scientific research in the country.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.